

**Pending applications for PCO/STD/ISD booths in Bihar**

†3146. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of PCO, STD, and ISD booths installed in Bihar during the last three years;

(b) the number of applications for such booths pending for approval alongwith the district-wise details thereof;

(c) by when all these applications will be cleared; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) 11164 PCO, STD/ISD booths have been installed in Bihar during the last three years;

(b) The number of applications pending telecom distrsict-wise, for allotment of PCO booths is given in the Statement. (See below).

(c) The pending applications are to be cleared progressively by March, 2001.

(d) The steps taken to clear the pending applications include augmentation of exchange capacity, expansion of outdoor network, augmentation of STD junctions etc.

**Statement**

Sl. No.	Name of Telecom District	Applications pending
1.	Arrah	0
2.	Bhagalpur	0
3.	Chapra	50
4.	Dhanbad	0
5.	Darbhanga	100
6.	Dumka	0
7.	Gaya	0

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

Sl. No.	Name of Telecom District	Applications pending
8.	Hazaribagh	0
9.	Jamshedpur	0
10.	Katihar	0
11.	Motihari	0
12.	Muzaffarpur	200
13.	Munger	0
14.	Patna	0
15.	Ranchi	0
16.	Sasaram	0
17.	Sahasra	0
18.	Daltanganj	0
19.	Hazipur (New District)	45
20.	Khagaria (New District)	0
TOTAL:		395

**Opening of Post Offices in Adivasi areas of Maharashtra**

3147. **SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating and set up new Post Offices/sub-Post offices for strengthening the postal services in Adivasi areas of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of Post Offices in Tribal areas of Maharashtra as on 31-3-2000 are given in statement (*See below*). It is also proposed to open 12 more Extra Departmental Post Offices in Tribal Areas of Maharashtra Circle during the current Annual Plan. However, Post Offices are opened as and when they are justified subject to departmental norms. This is further subject to sanctioning of required number of posts by the Ministry of Finance.

(c) No reply called for in view of (b) above.